



*L. H. Hooker.*

XLVII.

LA ROYALE PLUM.

The Plum delineated in the annexed plate, has long been cultivated in the *Royal Garden of Hampton Court* under the above name, and is also well known in *Covent Garden* by the same appellation; though the characters of the fruit differ much from the description given by DU HAMEL of the *Royale*, and from the *Royale de Tours* of that author.

It is, however, in many cases difficult, and perhaps impossible, to identify a fruit, under those changes of appearance which may be supposed to result from difference of climate, or from variation in the mode of culture; it may therefore be more proper to retain a name which has been long and generally received, though not strictly correct, or quite satisfactory, than to burden the nomenclature with an unnecessary addition of a new one.

The trees of our *Royale* are generally of healthy appearance, though less luxuriant than those of some other varieties, and are generally stated to be but very moderate bearers. In the garden above quoted, where trees are planted in south and in western exposures, they seldom fail to produce a tolerable crop. The leaves are of moderate size, ovate, generally broader at the end towards the point than near to the stem; of a deep green on their upper surface, pale and rather cottony beneath; the margin

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